

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 17 2020

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF KINGSON COURT



GENERAL ORDER RE: IMPLEMENTATION OF EMERGENCY RELIEF AUTHORIZED BY THE CHAIR OF THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL EMERGENCY ORDER OF SEPTEMBER 16TH, 2020

WHEREAS the World Health Organization, The United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the State of California Department of Public Health have recognized that the world, country, and state face a life-threatening pandemic caused by the COVID-19 virus.

WHEREAS as of September 17th, 2020, the World Health Organization has reported 29,737,453 confirmed cases of COVID-19 worldwide with 937,391 deaths caused by the virus.

WHEREAS as of September 17th, 2020 the Center for Disease Control has reported 6,571,867 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in 50 states and 4 territories of the United States of America, 195,053 of which have resulted in deaths.

WHEREAS as of September 17th, 2020 the California Department of Public Health has reported 762,963 confirmed cases of the COVID-19 virus in the state of California causing 14,615 deaths.

WHEREAS as of September 17th, 2020 the Kings County Department of Public Health has reported 3,912 confirmed cases of the COVID-19 virus in the community with an additional 3,074 cases in the State Prisons and 172 cases in the skilled nursing facilities located in Kings County for a total of 7,158 positive COVID-19 cases in Kings County causing 77 deaths.

WHEREAS the World Health organization, the Center for Disease Control ,California

Department of Public Health and the Kings County Department of Public Health have all recommended social distancing practices of staying at least six feet apart and the prohibition of gathering in groups as the best method to prevent the contraction and spread of the COVID-19 virus.

WHEREAS on March 4, 2020 California Governor Gavin Newsom declared a state of emergency in California because of the COVID-19 virus.

WHEREAS on March 13, 2020 The President of the United States declared a national emergency because of the COVID-19 virus.

WHEREAS on March 19, 2020 Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-33-20, requiring all residents of the State of California to stay home and shelter in place.

WHEREAS on March 23, 2020 the Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court and Chair of the Judicial Council, the Honorable Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, issued a state-wide order recognizing the Courts in the State of California are ill –equipped to effectively allow

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social distancing and other recommendations by public health experts required to protect people involved in court proceedings and to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

WHEREAS on March 23, 2020 the Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court and Chair of the Judicial Council, the Honorable Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, issued a state wide order suspending all jury trials for 60 days from the date of her order and the time period for bringing a case to jury trial for 60 days from the date her order.

WHEREAS on March 27, 2020 Governor Newsom issued executive order N-38-20 suspending all legal authorities that impede the use of technology in court proceedings and authorized the Chair of the Judicial Council to extend deadlines for certain court proceedings until 90 days after the state of emergency related to COVID-19 is lifted.

WHEREAS in order to protect the health and safety of the public, court employees, attorney's, litigants, judicial officers, law enforcement officers and the staff and inmates in detention facilities, on March 30, 2020 the Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court and Chair of the Judicial Council, the Honorable Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, issued a state wide emergency order authorizing trial courts to make orders extending deadlines for certain court proceedings and for the use of technology to conduct legal proceedings.

WHEREAS On March 18th, April 14th, June 15th, July 14th, August 17th, and September 16th 2020 The Honorable Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court and Chair of the Judicial Council determined that the conditions described in Government Code section 68115(a) continue to exist in Kings County and therefore she

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authorized this Court to issue an implementation order extending the deadline for jury trials.

WHEREAS after balancing the Constitutional due process rights of parties in criminal and civil cases with the health and safety of these parties, the public, court staff, judicial officers, attorneys, witnesses, jurors, law enforcement officers, deputy Sheriffs, probation officers and other persons present during court proceedings;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. The time period provided in Penal Code section 1382 for the holding of a criminal trial is extended by no more than 30 days from the last date on which the statutory deadline otherwise would have expired. This order is applicable only to cases in which the original or previously extended statutory deadline otherwise would expire from September 21,2020, to October 21,2020, inclusive (Gov. Code section 68115(a)(10); Executive Order N-38-20 (03-27-2020).
- 2. These extensions are in addition to any relief provided pursuant to any specific emergency order issued under a subdivision of Government Code section 68115 related to any other extension or form of relief.
- 3. The Kings County Superior Court is to make use of available technology, when possible, to conduct judicial proceedings and court operations remotely.
- 4. Any statute, local rule or California Rule of Court which would prevent the court from using technology to conduct judicial proceedings and court operations remotely are suspended.

Dated: <u>09/17/</u>, 2020

Robert Shane Burns, Presiding Judge Kings County Superior Court